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PATENT

Serial No. C9/829,794

Amendment in Reply to Final Office Action mailed on May 30, 2006

please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A communication device equipped with an automatic operation-keeping system, said communication device comprising:

- a main power source,
- a processing unit supplied with power by the main power source, and
- means for starting the device at a programmable start time including:
 - a clock to produce a current time, said clock being supplied with power from an auxiliary power source when said main power source is incapable of supplying power, and
 - means for automatically and periodically updating the

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start time to be greater than said current time, wherein said auxiliary power source does not supply power to said updating means when said main power source is incapable of supplying said power.

2. (Previously Presented) A communication device as claimed in Claim 1, in which the processing unit comprises the automatic updating means for updating the start time.

3. (Previously Presented) A communication device as claimed in Claim 1, comprising a register for storing start times, updated by the automatic updating means to a time D , so that $D = t + N$, where N is a time value higher than or equal to a start interval and where t is the current time.

4. (Original) A communication device as claimed in Claim 1, in which the auxiliary power source comprises an electric capacitance.

5. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the device is a portable telephone.

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6. (Previously Presented) A method of keeping a device in operation after a main power source is incapable of supplying power to said device, the method comprising the acts of:

updating a start time to come after a current time when the communication device is in operation by an updating means,

providing power to a clock by an auxiliary power source when main power source is incapable of supplying said power, wherein said auxiliary power source does not supply power to said updating means when said main power source is incapable of supplying said power, and

when the main power source is incapable of supplying said power, making a new start when a current time established by said clock coincides with a previously updated start time.

7. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 6, in which the start time is updated by adding a time increment to the current time.

8. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 7, in which the start time is updated with a shorter interval than a

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value of the time increment.

9. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the start time is measured from the current time as an instantaneous value in seconds.

10. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in Claim 9 wherein the number of seconds in the instantaneous value is measured as a number of pulses of the clock.

11. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the processing unit comprises a first part that is supplied with power by the main power source and a second part that can be supplied with power either by the main power or the auxiliary power source if the main power source fails.

12. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in Claim 11, characterized in that the second part further comprises at least one register for retaining the current time and the start time.

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13. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 6, characterized in that the start time is measured from the current time in as an instantaneous value measured in seconds.

14. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 13, wherein the number of seconds in the instantaneous value is measured as a number of pulses of the clock.

15. (Previously Presented) A method of keeping a device in operation after it has been stopped accidentally wherein, when the device is in operation, an automatic programmable start time is regularly updated to come after a current time and wherein, when the device is stopped by accident, a new start is automatically made when a current time established by a clock coincides with the previously updated start time and wherein, when the device is in operation, a main power source supplies power to both a first part and a second part of a processing section for the device and, when the device is stopped by accident, the first part is not supplied power and the second part is supplied power from an auxiliary power source.

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16. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 15, characterized in that second part contains at least one register that retains the current time and the start time.

17. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 15, characterized in that there at least a first clocking device operatively connected to the first part and a second clocking device operatively connected to the second part, wherein the second clocking device is powered by the auxiliary power source.

18. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 17, characterized in that the second clocking is a low frequency clocking device.

19. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 15, characterized in the auxiliary power source is a capacitance.

20. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 19, characterized in the capacitance forming the auxiliary power source

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is a sum of filter capacitors.

21. (Previously Presented) A device comprising:

a main power source for supplying power;

a memory for storing an augmented time which is greater than a current time and is updated periodically using a first clock;

an auxiliary power source for supplying power to a second clock for providing said current time when said main power source is incapable of providing power; and

a controller powered by said auxiliary power source, said controller being configured to set a start time when said main power source is incapable of providing said power,

wherein said auxiliary power source does not supply power to said first clock when said main power source is incapable of supplying said power.

22. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 21, wherein said controller is configured to set the start time when said current time provided by said clock equals said augmented time stored in said memory.